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land is concerned, we have before us Trevelyan's view of the American Revolution, but we would wish him length and strength of days to finish the tale after the American revolt expanded into a European war. On the American side much remains to be done; here too the conflict was a party conflict, and the author has not as yet succeeded in presenting the confusion and upheaval of the quarrel on this side of the water—the social reactions, the influence of frontier sentiment, the neighborhood feuds, the border strife, the political manœuvring and chicane, the greed for pelf, the self-sacrificing devotion, the plenty and want, the nobility and sordidness of the American Revolution.

A Century of Expansion. By WILLIS FLETCHER JOHNSON, A.M., L.H.D. (New York: The Macmillan Company; London: Macmillan and Company. 1903. Pp. xi, 316.)

DR. JOHNSON'S book is a popular account of the territorial growth of the United States. He points out the fact that American expansion is something more than geographical extension, that it involves the life of the people and is a continuation of the movement that began with the planting of the colonies. Upon this theory he devotes the opening chapters to the struggle with France for the possession of the Ohio, to Clark's conquest of the northwest, and to the treaty that closed the Revolution. This conception of the subject is admirable, but unfortunately the author's knowledge is unequal to its adequate treatment. Errors of detail are numerous. Among them are mistakes in dates and proper names; the stories of a Jesuit seminary at Kaskaskia, of the Flathead mission, and of Whitman's saving Oregon, and the statements that England purchased New York from Holland in order to secure a continuous sea-coast, that the taxes which caused the Revolution were imposed to meet the expenses of the French and Indian War, and that Jefferson sent Lewis and Clark overland as a part of his campaign against France for the possession of Louisiana. Nor are the general impressions conveyed accurate. The account of the peace negotiations at the close of the Revolution is badly warped. There is no appreciation of the difficulty of the position in which a dual alliance placed France, nor of the game which England played in order to detach the United States from France, but relations with England are represented as "particularly cordial". In the whole book Botta is the only authority cited upon this subject. In the case of Texas there is no presentation of the various elements that entered into the situation; the two annexation movements are not distinguished, but the acquisition is charged chiefly to the rapacity of Andrew Jackson. Most misleading is the discussion of the Oregon treaty, which is characterized as a "monstrous betrayal" and a "criminal concession", whereas in fact we were irrevocably committed to the line of the forty-ninth parallel and secured in that boundary all that we could reasonably ask.

The legal opinions set forth by Dr. Johnson are even more amazing than some of his historical statements. He derives the power to acquire

territory from the assertion of the Declaration of Independence that the United States have full power to do all things which independent states may do. This of course includes the power possessed by other states to acquire and govern colonies, and in this, as in all other respects, the United States must be the peer of any. He further argues that the power, originally derived from the Declaration of Independence, is confirmed by the provision of the tenth amendment to the Constitution reserving to the people the powers not delegated to the United States. The power to acquire territory, not having been delegated to the United States by the Constitution, is therefore "reserved to the people, and is to be exercised by them as their other legislative and executive powers are exercised, through the general government" (p. 106). As to the precise mode of exercise, the author is not clear. Texas, he says, should have been acquired by treaty, if at all, but, although devoting the longest chapter in the book to the acquisition of the Hawaiian Islands, he does not suggest that there is any question of the constitutionality of acquiring by joint resolution territory which is neither admitted nor intended ever to be admitted as a state.

The author's ideas of national rights and obligations are hardly less confused than his opinions upon constitutional law. In the preface he says that the story of expansion is "not all pride and sunshine. The nation has not always acted wisely and well. There are things to condemn as well as to commend. Acts are not always necessarily right just because our own country performs them." In the body of the book, however, every aggressive step, except the annexation of Texas and the Mexican War, is accorded unqualified approval. He claims that we exercised a protectorate over Cuba in the interest of Spain which rendered us responsible for the peace of this island; that withdrawal from the Philippines would have been a "course . . . worthy only of a pirate"; that we have a natural right to seize the Isthmus, should transit be unreasonably or arbitrarily denied; that we have a "reversionary right" to the West Indies, and that we must stand ready to take for ourselves whatever we are unwilling that others should acquire. This is the doctrine of the Ostend Manifesto, denounced by the first Republican platform (1856) as "the highwayman's plea, that 'might makes right.'" Its enunciation and popularity disclose the extent to which war blunts the moral sense of a people.

F. H. HODDER.

Historic Highways of America. By ARCHER BUTLER HULBERT. Vol. VIII., Military Roads of the Mississippi Basin. The Conquest of the Old Northwest. Vol. X., The Cumberland Road. Vol. XI., Pioneer Roads and Experiences of Travelers. (Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Company. 1904. Pp. 237, 208, 201.)

In his series upon historic highways in the northeastern and north central portions of the United States, Mr. Hulbert includes a study, un-